Listing of Claims

1. - 21. (canceled)

22. (new) A method for using a screen assembly on a vibratory separator... the

23. - 34. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein ...

35. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein ...

36. (new) A method for using a screen assembly on a vibratory separator...

37. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein ...

38. - 40. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein ...

41. (new) A method for using a screen assembly on a vibratory separator...

42. (new) A method for using a screen assembly on a vibratory separator...

Pending Claims

22. (new) A method for using a screen assembly on a vibratory separator, the screen assembly having non-flat areas of screening material thereon, the non-flat areas of screening material between lines of glue gluing together a plurality of layers of screening material, the plurality of glued-together layers of screening material secured to a frame, the frame comprising two ends, each end connected to and spaced-apart by one of two spaced-apart sides, the two spaced-apart sides including a first side and a second side and the frame including a plurality of spaced-apart crossmembers, each crossmember extending from the first side to the second side, the method comprising

mounting the screen assembly on a vibratory separator, the vibratory separator located in an environment at an ambient temperature,

vibrating the screen assembly with the vibratory separator for a period of time,

feeding material to be treated onto the screen assembly, the material to be treated at a material temperature above the ambient temperature,

the period of time of such a temporal length and the material temperature of such a temperature to effect flattening of the non-flat areas of screening material.

23. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the material temperature is at least five degrees above the ambient temperature.

24. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the material temperature is at least 100°F.

25. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the material is drilling fluid from a drilled wellbore, the drilling fluid having solid drilled cuttings therein.

26. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the glue is cured moisture-curing

hot melt glue.

27. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the glue is applied in a pattern.

28. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the ends and sides are tubular members.

29. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the glued-together layers of screening material are secured to the frame with epoxy.

30. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the glued-together layers of screening material are secured to the frame with glue.

31.(new) The method of claim 22 wherein the glued-together layers of screening material are secured to the spaced-apart crossmembers with epoxy.

32. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the glued-together layers of screening material are secured to the spaced-apart crossmembers with glue.

33. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein at least one of the plurality of spaced-apart crossmembers has at least one notch for receiving a portion of an upstanding member of a deck of the vibratory separator, the method further comprising

installing the screen assembly on the deck of the vibratory separator with a portion of the upstanding member projecting into the at least one notch.

34. (new) The method of claim 22 wherein the plurality of layers of screening material comprises at least a lower layer of coarse mesh and at least one layer of fine mesh.

35. (new) The method of claim 34 wherein the non-flat areas of screening material comprise portions of the at least one layer of fine mesh.

36. (new) A method for using a screen assembly on a vibratory separator, the screen assembly having non-flat areas of screening material, the non-flat areas of screening material between lines of glue gluing together a plurality of layers of screening material, the plurality of glued-together layers of screening material secured to a frame, the glue comprising moisture-curing hot melt glue, the method comprising

mounting the screen assembly on a vibratory separator, the vibratory separator located in an environment at an ambient temperature,

vibrating the screen assembly with the vibratory separator for a period of time,

feeding material to be treated onto the screen assembly, the material to be treated at a material temperature above the ambient temperature,

the period of time of such a temporal length and the material temperature of such a temperature to effect flattening of the non-flat areas of screening material.

37. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein the screen assembly is made by a production method and wherein the vibratory separator includes vibration apparatus for vibrating the screen assembly to impart vibratory forces to the screen assembly for vibrating the screen assembly during use of the screen assembly on the vibratory separator, the production method comprising

applying glue in a glue pattern to at least one layer of the screening material, the screening material useful for screening fluid introduced to a vibratory separator, said applying done by powered moving mechanical glue application means,

applying the glue in an amount sufficient so that said screen assembly while in use on the vibratory separator is able to withstand vibratory forces imparted thereto by the vibration apparatus of the vibratory separator,

heating the glue, and

moving with powered mechanical screen movement apparatus at least one layer of screening material beneath the powered moving mechanical glue application means.

38. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein the material is drilling fluid from a drilled wellbore, the drilling fluid having solid drilled cuttings therein.

39. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein the frame is comprised of two ends, each end connected to and spaced-apart by one of two spaced-apart sides, wherein the ends and sides are tubular members, and wherein the two spaced-apart sides include a first side and a second side and the frame includes a plurality of spaced-apart crossmembers, each crossmember extending from the first side to the second side.

40. (new) The method of claim 36 wherein at least one of the plurality of spaced-apart crossmembers has at least one notch for receiving a portion of an upstanding member of a deck of the vibratory separator, the method further comprising

installing the screen assembly on the deck of the vibratory separator with a portion of the upstanding member projecting into the at least one notch.

41. (new) A method for using a screen assembly on a vibratory separator, the vibratory separator having a deck with an upstanding member, the screen assembly having a plurality of layers of screening material, the plurality of layers of screening material connected together and secured to a frame, the frame comprising two ends, each end connected to and spaced-apart by one of two spaced-apart sides, the two spaced-apart sides including a first side and a second side and the frame including a plurality of spaced-apart crossmembers, each crossmember extending from the first side to the second side, wherein at least one of the plurality of spaced-apart crossmembers has at least one notch for receiving a portion of the upstanding member of the deck of the vibratory separator, the method comprising

a method for making a screen assembly with moisture-curing hot melt glue.

New Claims 41, 42

New claim 41 combines some of the subject matter and limitations of now-canceled claim 1 and of now-canceled claim 14 (which was indicated as allowable if rewritten to include **all** base claim limitations). Claim 14 recites a method in which part of vibratory shaker's deck is received in a corresponding notch in a screen assembly crossmember. Applicants respectfully submit that this is neither taught nor suggested by any art of record. Applicants note that claims to a screen assembly (similar to that in the new method claim 41 submitted here) and to a shale shaker with such a screen assembly are now pending in co-owned U.S. Application Ser. No. 10/057,755 and submitted herewith is a copy of the Response To Office Action Mailed 12.02/03 in that application. New claim 42 is like claim 41, but recites that the notch is in the frame.

Applicants respectfully submit that the new claims submitted here define nonobvious subject matter which is patentable with respect to the cited art and any possible legal combination thereof.

Excess Claim Fee

Please charge any excess claim fee to deposit account 13-0195.